of order upto a week or two and complaints are not attended to;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken action against the responsible officials;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the STD services of various cities in Haryana particularly in Hissar and Kurushetra regions remains out of order; and

(e) if so, what remedial steps have been taken by Government to redress such grievances of the subscribers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):

(a) to (c) No, Sir. Complaints are being attended to promptly and telephones reported faulty are mostly cleared by the following day. However sometimes due to major faults it takes longer time to rectify the defects.

The clearance of faults is continuously monitored at all levels on a daily basis. Suitable remedial action is taken from time to time to see that the faults are attended to promptly and no unavoidable delay takes place. If the delay in fault clearance is attributable to the lapse on the part of any official, action as per rules is taken.

(d) No, Sir. STD services of various cities in Haryana telecom. circle including Hissar and Kurushetra regions are working satisfactorily.

(e) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

German Investment in Telecom Sector

70. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the German telecom industry has agreed to invest Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 crores in the telecommunication sector in India;

(b) if so, what conditions the German industry has laid down for such an investment; and

(c) whether Government have agreed to the stipulated conditions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):

(a) M/S. Siemens A.G. Germany had submitted a proposal for manufacture of Electronic switching system with a investment of Rs. 43 crores. They have submitted an information memorandum in accordance with the new Industrial policy and the same has been registered. RBI has also approved the proposed foreign investment.

(b) No conditions have been mentioned in this information memorandum.

(c) Does not arise in view of 'b' above.

Private Sector Participation in Telephone Services

71. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:
SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to encourage the Private Sector to play a role in providing basic telephone services to the subscribers, specially in the rural areas; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There is no such proposal as on date.

(b) Question does not arise.

Ban of New Out of Turn Telephone Connections

72. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister COMMUNICATIONS refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 507 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th July, 1992 and to state :

(a) whether Government have lifted the recently imposed ban on pending new out-of-turn telephone connections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and